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it among the peasants, giving them very small remuneration for their labor. The estate was turned into a kolkhoz, and the peasants had to stay on as kolkhoz workers. This created great bitterness; workers were paid only nine zlotys per working day, plus some provisions. For labor with a horse (belonging to the peasant), the kolkhoz paid 35 zlotys for two days. As incomes were lower than subsistence minimum, the peasants left the kolkhoz in the Spring of 1953; then Debrowo was turned into a PGR, but the shortage of workers prohibits any real cultivation and the place has gone to ruin. Much of the land lies fallow. (The peasants' boycott, and inefficiency of Communist management are the chief reasons for the disastrous state of PGR's and kolkhozes.)

4. "There is no electricity in Karsin; radio sets can only operate on batteries, and only about five percent of the natives own radios. In February 1953, the farmer Alojzy Sluminski was accused of arranging radio listenings at home, and of spreading propaganda. His set was confiscated. He was also fired from his post of Chairman of the Peasant's Self-Help Organisation.
5. "Provisions: There is one cooperative grocery store, but stock is very limited: Salt, sugar, coffee, tea, groats, matches, sometimes chocolate, very seldom spaghetti, extremely seldom soda, laundry soap and powder, are available. Furthermore, there is an iron and porcelain store, one restaurant, a post and telegraph office, and a railway station. The cinema comes once a month; villagers complain that they cannot get kitchen articles in the village and that the cooperative is short of textiles and shoes. The farmers cannot get spare parts for their farming equipment. Kerosene was sold only in the winter - half a liter per month per farm. There have been no candles; housewives complain about the shortage of meat.
6. "Karsin has one barber, who is still 'private'. A haircut costs z1 2.60 and a shave z1 1.60 but since the peasants have become poverty stricken through the government's policy, they prefer to cut hair at home, and the barber is starving. There are two private tailors who charge z1 180.-350. for making a man's suit, depending on the quality of material and the amount of work. About 40% of a tailor's income goes into taxes and trade union fees. The nearest shoemaker is in the village of Wiele. This is a shoemakers' cooperative which does not provide leather; so anyone wanting a pair of shoes must provide the leather himself. (The cooperative does have poor quality leather for repairs. A poor pair of soles costs z1 140. per pair.)
7. "Karsin has a machine station and a 'Samopomoc Spiesdzka [?]', both of which are disliked by the peasants. The machines at the machine station are those confiscated from the peasants; now the peasants have to pay 30 kg of grain for each hour's use of their own former threshing machines. The traditional voluntary help which the peasants used to give each other during harvesting is now compulsory. Peasants are ordered to appear on a certain farm at a certain hour to work without pay. Those who do not appear on the day, or at the hour, must pay a fine of z1 150. The machine station which is in Lysewo, is on the estate of Maciejewski, which was requisitioned for that purpose; at these machine stations, the same all over Poland, when the confiscated machinery becomes too old to use, it is given back to the peasants who formerly owned it and new sowing machines and ploughs are procured by the station and hired out to the peasants. Machinery is poorly looked after: It is left outside all year round and rusts badly. There are no experts available to repair worn machinery and no one cares about it. Occasionally, local authorities reprimand the managers, but this has no effect. The manager of the Lysewo machine station is Jan Ligasi, who was in the Urals for a time after World War II. He is responsible for many Poles never returning to Poland. A Party member, he became manager of the station and continues to climb in merit through making false statements about his comrades; he cheats the authorities, takes bribes, and steals. His salary is z1 1100. per month.
8. "Dairies: Compulsory milk deliveries were established as a result of small milk supplies. A farm too far from the dairy to send milk must send butter instead. Seven milk 'confluences' have been established in the Karsin community. From these 'confluences' the milk is taken to Karsin, daily, and from there, by lorry, to Gserch, the principal dairy. This central dairy

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of Ozerak, Chojnice district, employs about 70 manual and clerical workers who earn a monthly salary of zł 300. The dairy pays zł 0.80 - 1.35 per liter of milk, depending on the fat content. The farmer is obliged to deliver 165 liters containing three percent butter fat, from each cow. If the fat content of the milk is less than three percent, he must deliver more milk. The dairy sells milk at zł 2.50 per liter, and butter at zł 60.-65. per kg. The dairy does not produce cheese.

9. Kolkhozes/Pay: Propaganda to encourage the planting of rapeseed sugar beets, grain, flax and poppy was spread in the Chojnice district. A farmer who cultivated any of these plants was paid for them in textiles such as, corduroy, wool, flannelette, (stockings,) etc. The pay differential for men and women on kolkhozes, depends upon the type of work done. If a woman performs the same work as a man, she receives the same wage. As the kolkhozes in the Chojnice district have no machinery for the planting or digging up of potatoes, women do this on a piecework basis. Children of 16 years or older have the same working conditions as do adults. The kind of work assigned to the young is determined by a doctor's certificate: Those with weaker constitutions perform lighter work but also receive less pay. A pregnant woman is given leave of one month before, and three months after the birth of her baby, with pay. No absences without good cause, or a doctor's certificate, are accepted. Women receive no privileges the men do not have, except maternity leave.
10. Forests: About 80% of the forests in Poland belong to the State. The wood a farmer is permitted to take for cooking or heating is indicated by the forest guard. A farmer may not even take wood or dry branches from his own forest without informing the guard. When the farmer has taken the wood permitted, the guard marks it and issues a chit. If the owner of a forest needs wood saved into boards, he must file a petition. As Poland is short of fuel, even the picking up of dry branches is often forbidden. This forces peasants to go to the forests by night to collect wood. Most of the forestry employees are old-timers and close their eyes to a peasant carrying wood; but there are, among the forest guards, people who will report a peasant seen carrying wood. A peasant so reported, is fined zł 500. - 1,000. Even cutting roots from tree stumps is severely punishable. Wood-cutters earn approximately zł 500. - 600. per month. A forest guard earns zł 700. per month, plus free lodging. Guards are not armed, so those who have to steal wood from the forest at night do not fear the forest guard. (The farmer, Mate Kuter, in Karsin, owned 107 hectares of forest, which was requisitioned by the State. In the Spring of 1953, the authorities decided to cut the forest. The timber was good. But the authorities could not find workers to cut. The farmers boycotted the authorities, refusing to cut wood which had been stolen from the farmer. [redacted] the forest was still untouched. Even offers of good pay and all the savings had not produced volunteers.)
- Timber: There is no timber to be had on the free market. The State pays zł 130. per meter for timber. A peasant needing timber can purchase it from the State for zł 360. Firewood costs zł 35. - 40. per cubic meter.
11. Karsin Concrete Factory: The factory ('Betoniarnia w Karsinie') has seven workers and used to belong to Karsin community; it produced water pipes, drain pipes, and roofing slates. Workers used to earn 30,000 /zł a month/ old currency; this was a sufficient salary. Then the State took over the factory; it was under the control of 'Chojnickie Zakłady Terenowego Przemysłu'. Prices of the products doubled, and the peasants were required to have a special permit to buy slates or pipes for their farms. Workers' incomes were much lower; the workers had to work for norms and do piecework. The manager of the factory is now /Fall 1953/ /Jan/ Bonin, not a Communist.
12. Exploitation of the Peasants: [redacted] five hectares of land, five pigs, two cows, four sheep and a number of hens and ducks. [redacted] small farm is obliged to deliver, yearly, 360 liters of milk per hectare, or 1800 liters altogether. During periods when the cows give less milk, the family has to buy milk to make up the delivery quota. Two eggs may be delivered in the

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place of one liter of milk, but only if a special commission finds that the farm produces insufficient quantities of milk, and gives express permission for the substitution of eggs. If a cow is registered for breeding, 250 liters of milk per year are deducted for the weaning of the calf. When a cow dies, a special commission is called in to officially attest to the death of the cow - then the farmer is entitled to certain deductions on milk delivery. Farmers are required to deliver pork in the quantity of 24 kg, live weight, per hectare; (25% of this may be other meat in some cases). The State pays z1 4.50 - 5. per kg, live weight, for pork. For other meat it pays z1 1.50 per kg, live weight. On the market a kg of bacon costs z1 35., pork z1 27. - 30., sausages z1 65., butter z1 65.

13. "One 'morga' (4 'morga' = 1 hectare), must deliver 40 quintals of potatoes and 24 kg grain. These are the quotas for small holders. A peasant having up to 29 hectares is regarded as a small holder. (Kulaks have higher quotas, such as 36 kg grain per 'morga', etc.) The State pays z1 3. - 10. per quintal of potatoes, but the market price is z1 27.; the State pays z1 19 for grain, but the market price is z1 50. - 60. According to the authorities, one hectare must keep ten hens, and each hen must produce ten eggs a month. The price per egg is 30 groszy, but on the free market an egg sells for z1 1.20. (There are 16 eggs to a kg). This exploitation by the State has resulted in a shortage of eggs in the country; it is difficult to buy eggs in the local cooperatives.
14. "My family paid taxes of z1 35. per hectare. A kulak or a wealthier or more diligent farmer pays higher taxes. The State wants simply to ruin these people. So as not to provoke increased taxes, the peasants pay on installments, even if they have the money to pay the total tax. The livestock of farmers ruined by taxes is sold at auction but the villagers boycott these auctions so the cattle is then sent to a PCR. A peasant behind in his quota deliveries is summoned before the militia; if he does not argue he may get off with a fine otherwise he is put in a UB prison. There he is beaten, in which case he returns in ill health to a ruined farm and, at best, can join a kolkhoz; more often his farm is confiscated.
15. "Karsin has about 20 kulaks, eight of whom have been ruined by the State. As there was no one available to take over the farms, and the village bravely opposes kolkhozes, the community had to take care of the farms. However, it is impossible to get workers for a farm which has lain fallow for more than a year, so the village council is attempting /Fall 1953/ to rent them. (A peasant has to pay one meter of grain per hectare.)
16. "In Karsin, Franz Radziejewski, owner of a farm with 40 hectares of arable land, President of the Peasants' Self-Help and Manager of the Community Bank, was removed from all his posts because he was a 'kulak', despite the fact that he was a good and respected manager. His 40 arable hectares and his forest were confiscated, leaving only 70 hectares of meadow. In 1952 all owners of meadows were ordered to cut peat, two thirds of which had to be delivered to the State, the remaining one third to be kept by the farmer. Radziejewski, who had no workers and no peat bog, was unable to fulfill the quota, so he lost his meadows as well.
17. "Boleslaw Kosikowski, a Karsin peasant, has a well-managed farm, but lost some cattle and horses through an epidemic. To save the farm, he took a loan; in 1953 his cattle and pigs were stricken by another epidemic. He called a commission of veterinary surgeons, whose verdict was sabotage. Kosikowski was arrested. After a month in a UB prison he was sent to the hard labor camp in Wloclawek. In the Fall of 1953, he returned home with a gastric ulcer. His farm is ruined. Jan Mientki, owns 'Chwaszenykwak', a two hundred hectare farm in the Kosciarszyn district. He, like everyone else, tried to save his farm from collectivization or confiscation by paying all taxes. As long as there was a little money in the family, he was able to keep up tax payments but finally, in 1952, he fell behind, was arrested, and terribly beaten by the UB. He was unconscious in the hospital for more than a day; when he returned home he told his friends what had happened to him, and in June 1953, he was visited by the UB again, and was taken to the Kosciarszyn prison where he was flayed for talking.

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[] His farm will probably be confiscated.

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18. "As industry needs building materials, farmers rarely get any for repairs, etc. Tar and boards for roofing is scarce, but straw roofing is forbidden. In May 1953, the building commission ('Powiatowa Komisja Budowlana') ordered [fnu] Legowski, a Karsin farmer, to tear off the straw roofing he had used, and pay a zł 300. fine.

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19. "Karsin has a church; the Priest is Pater [fnu] Osowski, []

[] Even Communists and the former Police Chief, [fnu] Bruski, attended services (on the insistence of their wives). Osowski is brave and preaches against persecution of the faith, demanding a Catholic education for children. In the Spring of 1953, the school inspector of Chojnice prohibited Pater Osowski from teaching religion in the school; the Priest started giving religious lessons to children at his parish house without charge. In the Fall of 1953, Osowski was finally arrested.

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20. "Course in Sempolno Agricultural School: The course lasts one year and has six different classes. More attention is given to educating young farmers to be Communists, than to training agricultural experts. Each course has 620 students and each class five instructors. The school has four politruks. There are five or six agricultural lessons, and two, three or four political ones each day. The course is theoretical - not practical. Excursions were made to PGR's and kolkhozes. The politruk [fnu] Lee, [] carried out a political purge of the students, about one third of whom were dismissed from the course before it ended. The more advanced students are required to visit villages, and propagate Communist and kolkhoz propaganda. The village bailiffs ('soltys') have to call meetings of the peasants at which the students speak. They are usually greeted coldly and sometimes even beaten. There is no tuition at the Agricultural School. Each student has a zł three-thousand scholarship per month, (old currency)."

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